1st February 1929]

*Constitution of a committee to enquire into the economic condition of Kistna and Godavari districts.*

* 1271-B Q.—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any and if so, what action the Government have taken to give effect to the resolution passed by this Council on 28th November 1928 urging the constitution of a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the economic condition of East and West Godavari and Kistna districts as preliminary to the resettlement; and

(*b*) whether the Government have ordered the consideration of the scheme report to be held in abeyance pending the said enquiry; and if not, why not?

*A.*—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1271-A.

(*b*) The Government propose, after consideration of the representations received, to issue orders on the proposals of the Special Settlement Officer, other than those relating to rates. The reasons for not delaying the issue of orders on the proposals other than those relating to rates were stated in the answer to question No. 23 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd September 1928.

*Levy of back assessment for excess areas of lands surveyed in South Kanara.*

* 1272 Q.—Mr. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a Government Order was passed laying down that in the case of excess areas of land found during the resurvey in South Kanara over the areas for which pattas were issued during the last survey neither back assessment nor site value should be levied from the pattadars; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a second Government Order has been issued whittling down the effect of the former Government Order and giving full discretion to the local Revenue and Settlement officials in the matter of levying back assessment and site value?

*A.*—(*a*) & (*b*) The whole question has been further examined by the Government and orders on the subject have just been issued. A copy of the orders is being sent to the hon. Member.

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"May I know whether Government propose to deal with the question of kumkis separately, because I do not find any reference to it in the Government Order just passed."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"My recollection is that the last sentence of the order stated that the matter would be dealt with separately. It is being dealt with separately."